

TEEN SEXTING TIPS

“Sexting” usually refers to teens sharing nude photos via cell phone.

It's illegal

- Don't take or send nude or sexually suggestive photos of yourself or anyone else. If they're of you and you pass along to someone else— you could be charged with producing or distributing child pornography. Keeping pictures on your phone or computer could get you charged with possession.

Non-legal consequences

- The emotional damage that can come from having intimate photos of yourself sent to others can be devastating to your reputation. Not only can these pictures be sent around; they can be distributed and archived online for people to search for forever.

If you receive a sexting photo on your phone

- First, do not send it to anyone else (that could be considered distribution of child pornography).
- Second: Talk to a parent or trusted adult. Tell them the full story so they know how to deal with the situation.

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- If the picture is from a friend or someone you know, then someone needs to talk to that person so he or she knows sexting is against the law. You're doing the friend a favor because if the police get involved they will be in serious trouble.
- If the photos keep coming, you and an adult should speak with your friend's parents, school authorities or the police.

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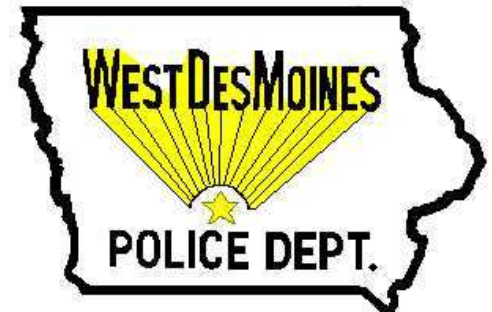


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Internet Safety



For Teens



SOCIAL WEB SAFETY TIPS FOR TEENS

Think about what you post

- Sharing provocative photos or intimate details online, even in private emails, can cause you problems later on. If your ex-friends decide to hurt you they can use that information.

Friendship

- It may be fun to check out new people for friendship or romance, but be aware that, while some people are nice, others act nice because they're trying to get something. Flattering or supportive message may be more about manipulation than friendship or romance.

Don't talk about sex with strangers

- Be cautious when communicating with people you don't know in person, especially if the conversation starts to be about sex or physical details.

Avoid in-person meetings

- The only way someone can physically harm you is if you're both in the same location. Be 100% safe– don't meet them in person.



CELL PHONE SAFETY TIPS

- All the same tips apply with phones as with computers.
- Just as in chat rooms and social sites, you need to think about who you text and talk with.
- You should never text/talk about sex with strangers.
- Phones should only be used to communicate with people you know in the real world.

Mobile social networking

- Many social sites have a feature that allows users to check their profiles and post comments from their phones anywhere. Make sure you're using the same good sense about how you're social networking on your phone.

Media-sharing by phone

- Most mobile phones we use today have cameras, some video cams– and teens love to share media with friends. Never let other people photograph or film you in embarrassing or inappropriate situations (and vice versa).



TIPS TO STOP CYBERBULLYING

Don't respond

- If someone bullies you, remember that your reaction is usually exactly what the bully wants. It gives him or her power over you.

Don't retaliate

- Getting back at the bully could also get you in trouble with parents or police.

Save the evidence

- Harassing messages can usually be captured, saved, and shown to someone who can help. Share this information with an adult even if it's minor stuff, in case things escalate.

Talk to a trusted adult

- This could be a parent, teacher, school counselor, or the police.

Block the bully

- If the harassment is coming in the form of instant messages, texts, or profile comments. Use preferences or privacy tools to block the person. If it's in a chatroom, leave the "room."

Be a friend, not a bystander.

- Watching or forwarding mean messages encourages bullies and hurts victims. Tell bullies to stop or let them know harassment makes people look stupid and mean and is against the law.